

August 27, 2014

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Judge Stephen Rhodes:

I am a lifelong resident of the City of Detroit. When I was growing up on the north end of Detroit. Everybody took care of their landscaping. Grass was cut, you never saw mattresses and junk just thrown out on the curb, and there were few abandoned homes. My neighborhood was one I took pride in. I cannot stand blight and feel that me, and the children in my neighborhood should not have to tolerate it.

I am a single homeowner and I try to make a positive difference in my neighborhood, on my job, at my church, with my family and in the community. I would like to request money from the City's budget to board up 2 abandoned homes in my neighborhood. I have called the Mayor's office, I have called my councilman (Scott Benson), and Mr. Gary Bulluck who is over my neighborhood. Everybody tells me there is no money to board up abandoned houses!!

I make the effort to try to keep my neighborhood nice. For the past 2 years, I have paid to have the grass cut on 2 abandoned homes in the middle of my block. Because of my work schedule it is difficult for me to attend community meetings. But, I do

Attend when I can. I attended my first Community Luncheon Meeting hosted by Black Family Development. It was so nice And positive. I do plan to attend more meetings when my Schedule allows.

20314 Goulburn-is a corner house at Collingham off E. 8 Mile Road. I have been trying since last year to get action on this House. Francine Adams was trying to help me. The owner was Taken to court and fined. Yet, he has done nothing to this house. I called the Mayors office because I felt the house could have Been saved and rehabed. I was told the house would be Considered. But, I have heard nothing. I even sent a email To the Detroit Landbank Authority. Still, I 've heard nothing. I have paid to have the grass cut on this house. But, the house Is wide open. The garage was open and a lot of dumping was Done. I had a friend sit the junk on the curb to be picked up. I care, but I need some help for my neighborhood. I would Like for the house and garage to be boarded up. Because I am a single homeowner I do have to be careful And look out for my safety. My neighborhood is covered by The Osborn Neighborhood Association and the Pulsaki block Club. But, because of my work schedule I am unable to attend Meetings. But, the issue still is we need money for boarding

Up houses in the neighborhoods. It is so dangerous for our  
*Children to be walking by these houses on there way to*  
School.

I heard on the news that Kevin Orr allocated money to city  
Council to enlarge their budgets. I was upset because I feel  
That money should be allocated to board up homes. Or, split  
The money, half to the city council and have for board ups.  
*I know you took a tour of some blighted neighborhoods. But,*  
Please if you have time come to the east side of Detroit.

Tour the neighborhoods, East 8 Mile between Van Dyke and  
Gratiot. *You will see there are a lot of nice bungalow homes*  
And citizens taking care of their property. You will also see  
A lot of blight and open homes that need to be boarded up.  
*20242 Goulburn-this house needs to be boarded up too. I*  
Was grateful when the city came through last week and cut  
Grass on abandoned homes and lots. But, please allocate  
*Funds so the abandoned homes can be boarded up. This wil*  
Help improve safety in our community.

I want you to also know that 20266 Goulburn, the house is for  
Sale. When I saw the "for sale", sign I called Gary Bulluck  
Because the grass needed to be cut. I was told that when a  
Real estate company is selling a house they are responsible

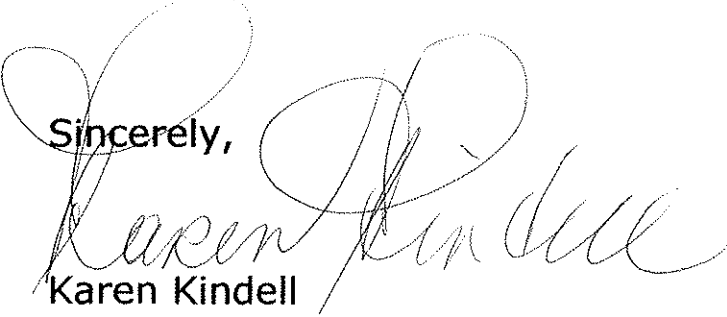
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For keeping the grass cut and the landscaping. However, Mr. Bulluck told me that the city sells some homes without a Maintenance agreement. So, this contributes to the deterioration Of the neighborhood and blight. I informed my councilman Scott Benson, and Council President Brenda Jones but I have Not heard anything about changing contracts to include a Maintenance agreement!

I wrote this letter because I want you to know of my personal Experience with trying to improve my neighborhood. I truly Believe one caring person can make a difference. So, consider Allocating money so abandoned homes can be boarded up. Please share my letter with Mayor Mike Duggan, Kevin Orr Etc.

My contact info is Karen Kindell (313) 526-3557. Mornings Are the best time for contact.

Sincerely,

  
Karen Kindell